Pollution in Delhi

4600. PROF. O. P. KOHLI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that about 1000 tonnes of pollutants are exuded into the air every day in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether lead-free petrol (0.15 gm. of lead per litre) would be made available in all four major metropolitan cities this year;

(c) whether it is also a fact that no attempt has been made to synchronise the arrival of lead-free petrol with new engine designs vital for cars run on this petrol; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Petrol with a reduced lead content (0.15 grams per litre) can be made available in all the four major Metropolitan cities this year.

(c) No, Sir. Discussions have been held to synchronise the arrival of unleaded petrol with new engine designs.

(d) Does not arise.

Pak decision to accept mediation on Kashmir issue

4601. Shri V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the 'Indian Express' dated the 15th December, 1993 that Pakistan recently announced its decision to readily accept the offer of good offices by Teheran for the settlement of Kashmir issue;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) Government have seen the news item in the 'Indian Express' dated 15-12-1993 on a reported statement by the Foreign Minister of Pakistan.

(b) and (c) Government are committed to resolving all outstanding issues between India and Pakistan peacefully and through bilateral negotiations under the Simla Agreement. This has been conveyed to Pakistan and other countries on several occasions at various levels.

Acquisition of Tanks by Pak from Britain

4602. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that according to Press report in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 19th December, 1993, Pakistan is acquiring tanks from Britain; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to counter the same

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) Government are aware of press reports to this effect.

(b) Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on national security and take necessary measures to ensure defence preparedness at all times.

Visit of European Ambassadors to Jammu and Kashmir

4603. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHRI SAMBHAJI RAO SHINDE :
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU :
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH ::
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA :
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports that four Euro-